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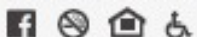
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# The Woodlawn Connection



March / April ~ 2017

**Welcome  
Spring**



**Sunday - March 12th at 2 AM**



## WHAT'S INSIDE?

President's Message ~ Woodlawn Park  
The Golden Ear ~ Woodlawn Preserve  
Westside Story ~ Community Highlights  
SchenectadyRecycles ~ Advertisements &  
More...

**Woodlawn Neighborhood Meetings - 4th Wednesday of the month  
7 PM @ Hibernian Hall (1748 State Street)**

**\*\* FREE PUBLICATION \*\***

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A Publication of

**The Woodlawn Neighborhood Association**

[www.woodlawnneighborhood.org](http://www.woodlawnneighborhood.org)

## Where's The Newsletter?

Get your **FREE** copy of  
**The Woodlawn Connection**  
 at the following locations:

Albany Street Sunoco	Marotta's Pizza
Beth Ann Kayser, CPA	Mavis Tire
Blue Ribbon Restaurant	Ming's
Bumpy's Polar Freeze	Mohawk Progressive FCU
Calvary Tabernacle Church	New Life Ministries
Camillo's Bistro	Plaines
Dolce Vita	Roc's Hairstyling
Fantastic Sam's	Serendipity
Gallo's Florist	St. Paul the Apostle Church
G & M Auto	Stanford United Methodist Church
Grasso's Barber Shop	Starbucks
Griswold Funeral Home	Steve's Barber Shop
H&V Collision Center	Subway Shop
Hibernian Hall	Uncle Sam's Candy
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Kingsway Community	Woodlawn Library
Lorenzo's Italian Cafe	Woodlawn Park
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We are your Woodlawn service club,  
 helping our Woodlawn neighbors and beyond.  
 Won't you join us? Come anytime!



## Schenectady East Rotary Club

Breakfast meetings on Wednesdays  
 7:30 - 8:30 AM  
 Ancient Order of Hibernians  
 1748 State Street Schenectady, NY 12304  
 374-8891

*The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal  
 of service as a basis of worthy enterprise.*

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# A MESSAGE FROM WNA PRESIDENT

## SAVE THE DATE



Please mark your calendar for our **Annual Woodlawn Garage Sale**, scheduled for the weekend of **May 20 & 21**. Last year was one of our largest events ever with nearly 200 homes participating! Beginning **April 15**, permits can be purchased at the **Sunoco Gas/Food Mart on 2501 Albany Street** and at **Grasso's Barber Shop on 2506 Albany Street**. The cost of the permit is still only **\$10.00**. Remember, you must have a permit issued by the Woodlawn Neighborhood Association in order to participate in this very popular event.

Finally, another big **"Thank You"** to everyone who helped organize, volunteered, contributed and of course purchased tickets to our annual pasta dinner. I will have a detailed report for our next newsletter since this is going to print prior to the event.

We have invited **Mayor McCarthy** to speak at our **March 22** meeting and we intend to have a **representative from the Schenectady City School District** at our **April 26** meeting to offer insight on the school budget and what impacts the State budget may or may not have on our children. Candidates who will be seeking three seats on the School Board of Education will be in attendance as well. An open question and answer session will take place.

### Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

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- With direct deposit, 100% of your refund will arrive within 7-14 days.
- Access to multiple sites with convenient hours.

Call 2-1-1 to make an appointment

Reminder, our association meetings are now on the **fourth Wednesday of each month** starting at **7 PM**. At our **"new"** location—**Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall, 1748 State Street**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at home, 377-8810. I will make every attempt to return your call as soon as possible.

**Ed Kosiur—President, Woodlawn Neighborhood Association**

# TREES IN NEED OF A HOME

As a neighbor and a Certified Arborist who wants to help more trees come to Woodlawn - not just for our Park and Preserve - but also our streets and homes, it is my hope to provide a community outreach initiative this year.

A donation of many young trees has come my way, so I am looking for property owners who would be interested in providing a home for a tree after the winter season.

With so many of our streets losing the trees that once lined them, my hope is to locate these trees near the streets of our neighborhood. Thus, we may all share in their benefits of beauty and so much more.

The plan is for us to assist in planting to give the tree the best start. The property owner is to water through summer till fall of the first year. After that, watering should only be necessary if we have a dry summer or drought.

We have a variety of species from which to select the most suitable tree for your home, but there are a finite amount of available options. So please respond as early as you can to be on the list.

***If you are interested, please email me at CF.Tree@gmail.com with "Tree home" as subject.*** Please include address and brief description of your preferred planting sight if you have one to help us expedite the process.

If anyone is interested in young Gooseberry plants, we also have some to share.

Please join us in helping Woodlawn to be another neighborhood that can continue to enjoy our history of tree-lined streets by planting as well as saying good bye to trees that are on the way out.



**The Golden Ear—By John Rose**

*This Is A Gossip Column*



Hurray!! The casino is open!! What a fast construction job! It took about a year from the final approval until February 8th. I can't wait to go there to see the inside. There're restaurants and plenty of parking - Good luck to all!! The opening was spectacular!

The new Motor Vehicle Bureau on upper State Street will be taking up the whole building. It will be opening in October. So, the Senior Citizen Center that was alleged to go in there will now be moved to the Hibernian Center at 1748 State Street. It will also be opening in October. It will be open two days a week to start, Tuesdays and Thursdays, approximately from 9am-3pm. There will be coffee in the morning and lunch will be served and prepared by the Hibernian members for a small fee. Some of the details are still being worked out, and some of the things that the seniors will do is play cards, bingo and take part in possible bus trips and other educational activities pertaining to seniors. This is very exciting and will evolve upon the interests and needs of the senior community. We would like to thank Ed Kosiur for spearheading this project.

Hot Rumor!! Possible baseball in Downtown Schenectady. Interested parties are discussing the possibility of bringing a minor league baseball team to Downtown Schenectady. The possible team is the Binghamton Mets AA baseball. My family and I are praying that this does take place being that we are all Mets fans.

Narrow streets in Woodlawn - The city should make alternate parking during snow storms so the city can plow properly.

That's it for now folks, and I'll be listening.

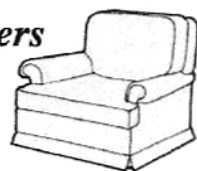
John Rose

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## WOODLAWN – The West Side Story

By Marcel

I'm sending a special thank you to Steve Croce, former proprietor of Steve's Barber Shop. Steve retired after 50 years of service to the Woodlawn/Schenectady area. Steve always made me feel welcome in his shop with his infectious smile. I will miss his sage wisdom as we discussed the area and how it changed since he opened his shop. I recently asked him the most significant change in the hair cutting business during his career. His answer was the arrival of the Unisex salon. In the past, men went to the barber shops and women went to the hair salons. Today, barbers must know how to cut women's hair and the hair stylists men's hair. Steve's friends can still call him at 518 377-5542.

The legacy of hair cutting at Steve's old shop lives on. Francesco Parillo has opened the Focus Salon, 1528 State Street - (518) 382-7660. Frank is assisted by his staff of Virginia and Asia. Frank and his staff are licensed (Master Barber and Cosmetologist) and trained in the usage of Paul Mitchell hair products. They specialize in men's, women's, young and old hair styles. Their prices are competitive and the shop has off-street parking (front and back).

Camillo's Bistro and Bar has purchased the abandoned adjacent property for additional off-street parking. We are fortunate that Western Woodlawn has several really good eatery/beverage places that are safe and really clean. MacArthur's pub is a great sports bar with typical light fare menu - say hi to Doug and Terry. Lorenzo's Café is a diner with reasonable prices - say hi to Matt and staff. Camillo's offers light fare with an Italian touch - say hi to Cheryl and Terry.

Please support our Woodlawn merchants.

Till next time....



The **Woodlawn Branch** of Schenectady Libraries  
2 Sanford Street  
518.386.2248

M: 10 am - 5 pm  
T-TH: 1 pm - 7 pm  
SAT: 1 pm - 5 pm  
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To see what events are going on at this and other  
Schenectady public libraries, go to:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=SCNY>

## St Patrick's Day Celebration



Schenectady Hibernian Hall  
1748 State St

*Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup> 2017*



Blackbird Duo (Traditional Irish Music) 2-5pm  
Farrell School of Irish Dance  
Schenectady Pipe Band  
Double Play 6-10pm

*Serving:*

*Corned beef sandwiches, colcannon,  
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\$3 donation at the door



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## Woodlawn Neighborhood Association

### MEETING SCHEDULE ~ 2017

**General Neighborhood Association meeting**  
*4th Wednesday of each month - 7 PM @ Hibernians Hall (1748 State Street)*  
(No general meeting in August/December)

**Woodlawn Park & Woodlawn Preserve committee meetings**  
*4th Wednesday of each month - 6 PM @ Hibernian Hall (1748 State Street)*

#### Officers:

President - Ed Kosiur (377-8810)  
Treasurer - Ann Sturgis (377-6678)

Vice President - Lou Grasso (374-1623)  
Secretary - Rose Harrell (346-4665)

#### District Vice Presidents:

East: Terry VanValkenburgh (370-5803) West: Jim LaPointe (377-2092)

#### Committee Chairpersons:

Newsletter & Woodlawn Park - Spero Zoulas (331-0929)

Newsletter Ads - Cole Denning (227-4085)

Woodlawn Preserve - Janet Given (210-5439)

Social/Refreshment - Vacant

Welcoming - Camy Wyckoff (370-5311)

If you have any suggestions pertaining to any of these  
officers or committees, please call or mail suggestions to:

**Woodlawn Neighborhood Association**  
2506 Albany Street,  
Schenectady, NY 12304

Go to [www.woodlawnneighborhood.org](http://www.woodlawnneighborhood.org) to get the  
latest information on Woodlawn Meetings, Events & Happenings.



**Public Safety Notice**  
**In case of emergency, call 911...**

**Officer Brad Carlton patrols Woodlawn  
from 4 pm to Midnight.** Officer Brandon  
Kietlinski patrols during the day.

Please email non-emergency questions/concerns to Officer Carlton at  
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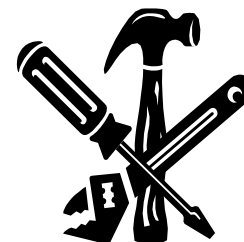
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**Thoughts on buying, recycling  
and disposing to help our environment  
and...to meet single-stream recycling  
guidelines!**

#### **Paper/Cardboard**

Tours of County Waste recycling in Albany take off with a live video talk giving a regional picture of recycles, separating and trash. Statistics point to ways we all can make a difference. Of trash they receive that **could** have been diverted from the landfill, 28% is paper. How about junk mail? Buy Paper- packaged snack chips? Enjoy the pizza; then recycle the box! If you're new to this, why not start with paper and cardboard, and branch out from there? Help someone else recycle! Unless a bin is provided, use or buy one with a lid. Apply the City's green sticker: free at City Hall's OGS, at Neighborhood Association meetings, or mornings at Grasso's Barbershop.

#### **Metals and Plastic**

You bought an aerosol-can product, and it's now empty. Please double-check that it's empty before recycling. Clean and rinse aluminum foil and containers.

If you have an aluminum pot that no longer serves its purpose, note that it is not on the curbside pick-up list. However, Predel's on Edison will take it, along with other metal material and car batteries.

While Home Depot and Lowe's take rechargeable batteries, they join with pharmacies and large markets in recycling clean/dry plastic films and bags. Solo cups can be nested in your bin. You can also recycle your yogurt and food containers with lids attached as well.

Thanks for doing your best...and enjoy single stream!

*Share your ideas, stories, and volunteer!*  
[schenectadyrecycles@gmail.com](mailto:schenectadyrecycles@gmail.com)

*Roberta Farrell, Chair of Recycling Committee of ECOS:*  
*The Environmental Clearinghouse ~ [www.ecosny.org](http://www.ecosny.org)*

*Other Resources:*  
[www.cityofscheneectady.com](http://www.cityofscheneectady.com)  
[www.schenectadycountry.com/recycling](http://www.schenectadycountry.com/recycling)  
[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/294.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/294.html)

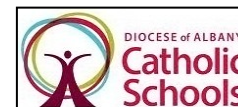
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## Notable Days in March & April...

### March

**8th** - International Women's Day  
**12th** - Daylight Saving's Time begins  
**17th** - St. Patrick's Day  
**20th** - Spring Begins!

### April

**2nd** - April Fool's Day (*actually the 1st*)  
**16th** - Easter Sunday  
**22nd** - Earth Day (U.S.)  
**26th** - Administrative Prof. Day  
**28th** - Arbor Day



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**RECYCLE**

## 2017 WASTE COLLECTION DATES WOODLAWN

### District #1 Woodlawn—Central Park

**March**  
 7, 14, 21, 28  
**April**  
 4, 11, 18, 25  
**May**  
 2, 9, 16, 23, 31

### District #2 Crosstown to Brandywine

**March**  
 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
**April**  
 5, 12, 19, 26  
**May**  
 3, 10, 17, 24



## NEWSLETTER ADS & ARTICLES



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**Cwdenning@hotmail.com**

**Next deadline is  
 April 20, 2016**

**227-4085 for more info**

Spring is in the air; we can already hear the birds singing in anticipation of the warmer weather. Soon we'll be hearing those spring peepers and if lucky we might see a Mourning Cloak butterfly, one of the earliest species to emerge.



The mourning cloak is one of a number of butterfly species that overwinter as adults. They spend the winter frozen in cryo-preservation in tree cavities, beneath loose tree bark or in unheated buildings. Virtually anywhere they can fit into to protect them from winter winds and keep them out of the view of birds and squirrels will do as a hibernaculum (an overwintering den).

We have received a copy of the permit needed to begin work on the long awaited mitigation project. What we may see first is the creation of a .5 acre of wetland at the edge of the existing pond. Next, wetland enhancement will occur by treating the approximately 4.31 acres of Phragmites within the pond area of the Preserve. Lastly, additional barriers and fencing will be installed along illegal ATV access points to the Woodlawn Preserve.

We have written a letter of support for a DEC grant proposal submitted by the Schenectady County Environmental Advisory Commission, working in partnership with Cornell Cooperative Extension, to get funding for an inventory of trees at-risk of invasive pest infestation within Schenectady County. Targeted trees would include hemlocks (hemlock wooly adelgid), ash (emerald ash borer), and red and white oak (oak wilt disease). The tree inventory would include GPS coordinates, and will then be followed up by an educational program to arm citizen scientists to be able to go out and identify any affected trees.

Chris Hawver (Albany Pine Bush Commission Executive Director) and I met with Senator Jim Tedisco's Director of Policy, Jonathan Pirro, on Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> to urge the Senator's support of the \$50,000 'carve out' item for the Woodlawn Preserve. Last year's money will be spent on a survey of the Preserve, including all foreclosed upon properties that have been added back into the Preserve. We are hoping this year's funds can be used for trail creation and maintenance. Any monies leftover from these projects will go towards new barriers to keep the Preserve free from ATV and other motorized interferences.

We have written a grant proposal to the Schenectady County Initiative Program requesting money to help support our Third Annual Fishing Day, scheduled for June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017. If awarded, the money will be used to purchase additional fishing equipment, tackle, nets, and bait; food for our free BBQ, promotional materials and guide maps. This year, in addition to fishing, we will be offering guided walks through the Preserve. We are looking for volunteers, especially those who have some knowledge of fishing and would be willing to offer help and assistance to our young (and some not so young) participants.

If you see or hear anything unusual going on in the Preserve, call the Schenectady Police non-emergency number at 630-0911, or email non-emergency information or questions to Patrolman Brad Carlton at bcarlton@schenectadypd.com. The DEC can be reached at 1-877-457-5680 or call directly to our Region #4 reps Chris Valenty and Brian Wilson at 357-2047.

Janet Chen, Chair  
 Friends of the Woodlawn Preserve ~ 210-5439

WOODLAWN PRESERVE

# WOODLAWN PARK

## Spring Clean-Up...2017 Garage Sale at the Park

The warm glow of springtime sunshine is fast approaching thankfully. And that means it's almost time to get outdoors and spruce up our yards. It is also a great time to give back to your community. Whether it's at the park, the preserve or anywhere else in our city, giving back to community is a great way to share your talents and generosity for sustained pride in what's great about living in Schenectady!

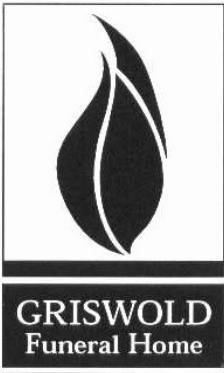
With this in mind, please consider helping us out during our **Annual Spring Clean-Up Event at the Park on Saturday, April 22nd beginning at 9 am.** We will be raking, clearing out brush, setting out some of our picnic tables and benches as well as other general maintenance tasks. Coffee, water, and treats will be provided and we have rakes, tools and gloves on hand. We hope you join us to begin our seventh year since adopting the park!

With the Springtime season also comes the **Annual Garage Sale at the Park!** This year's sales days will again coincide with the Woodlawn Community Garage Sale Event - **Saturday, May 20th and Sunday, May 21st.** While we are accepting donations of household items for the garage sale all year round, we will hold our **garage sale donation drop days on Friday, May 12 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm and Saturday, May 13th from 8 am to Noon.** We thank you in advance for any donations you may be able to provide.

This coming year will address more park improvements. Coming off the recent repaving of the parking lot, we will have new parking lines added this spring. Security cameras will also come to the park - the installation date has been set and cameras will be operational this spring. The addition of a swinging bench for seniors will also come to the park. We will also be working on continued projects: including more stained concrete to the park's common area, new shrubbery and other plantings to soften the park's appearance, enhanced handicap access to the bathroom, the possible addition of fencing along the western side of the parking lot for increased privacy for neighboring properties, and new chess/checkers stations located by the playground area. These are just a few things to come this year.

Much of this year's initiatives for park enhancements are being pursued through a grant from our local Home Depot store on Cambridge Road. This store has been a long-standing partner with our park, helping us secure numerous store gift card coupons towards materials, as well as a significant reduction in cost to supplies needed for the playground installation back in November, 2015. We are looking forward continuing our work with this community-minded business and appreciate their wiliness to always help us achieve our goals!

Once again...thank you so much for your continued support,  
Spero Zoulas - Chair of Woodlawn Park Redevelopment Committee



**Terry Van Valkenburgh**  
**Funeral Director**

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